

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 17, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution opposing H.R. 3372
and H.R. 2948, or similar
legislation that would increase
the permissible size and weight
of trucks, commercial vehicles,
multi-axle vehicles, and
specialized hauling vehicles on
the interstate highway system

Resolution No. R-933-23

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Eileen Higgins.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 17, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)
10-17-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-933-23

RESOLUTION OPPOSING H.R. 3372 AND H.R. 2948, OR
SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD INCREASE THE
PERMISSIBLE SIZE AND WEIGHT OF TRUCKS,
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, MULTI-AXLE VEHICLES, AND
SPECIALIZED HAULING VEHICLES ON THE INTERSTATE
HIGHWAY SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Federal law currently limits the weight of motor vehicles traveling on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, such as trucks and automobile transporters, to 80,000 pounds; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2023, H.R. 2948 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Representative Lance Gooden (R – Texas) for consideration during the 118th Congress; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 2948 would, among other things, increase the permissible weight of stinger-steered combination automobile transporters traveling on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways to 88,000 pounds; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2023, H.R. 3372 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Representative Dusty Johnson (R – South Dakota) for consideration during the 118th Congress; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3372 would allow states to increase the permissible weight of six-axle vehicles, such as commercial trucks, to 91,000 pounds if states opt-in to a pilot testing program which will be used to determine the safety of heavier vehicles traveling on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that an increase in commercial vehicle size and weight can negatively impact highway safety and lead to infrastructure damage, traffic congestion, and further damage to the environment; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County (the “County”) is a member of the National Association of Counties (“NACo”); and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2023, NACo members discussed the potential financial impact of heavier vehicles on local infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, among the concerns cited by NACo members about H.R. 2948 and H.R. 3372 were the imposition of an unfunded mandate on our counties and the degradation of our road networks; and

WHEREAS, these legislative measures, if approved by Congress, may also pose risks to drivers, pedestrians, and the overall safety of our communities, with the potential negative impact on road and bridge infrastructure being a matter of significant concern for the County and other NACo members; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to support NACo, maintain the high standard of transportation infrastructure throughout the County, and ensure the safety of the residents and visitors of the County by opposing H.R. 3372 and H.R. 2948,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Opposes H.R. 3372 and H.R. 2948, or similar legislation that would increase the permissible size and weight of trucks, commercial vehicles, multi-axle vehicles, and specialized hauling vehicles on the interstate highway system.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and the United States Secretary of Transportation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s federal lobbyists to advocate for the actions set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2023 Federal Legislative Package to include this item and to include this item in the 2024 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Eileen Higgins. It was offered by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** , who moved its adoption. The motion as seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye
	Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	absent
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado aye
Micky Steinberg	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of October, 2023. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

RAH

Rochelle A. Hall
Javier Zapata